

NEWS FROM YOUR WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

This month Council meetings have included **workshops** discussing Representation arrangements, Library Reciprocal agreements, District Plan Review, Iwi Consultation, Gambling Policy, Dangerous and Insanitary buildings Policy and more. We also heard submissions to the Waste Management Minimisation Plan.

Every six years all Councils must review the arrangements for **representation** to ensure our communities are fairly represented on and by Council. We have been debating this arrangement for Waikato District over the last few months and we opted as our initial proposal that we adopt a modified status quo, retaining 13 councillors, plus Mayor, with slightly modified ward boundaries in the north where our population has grown, with some changes to the elected Community Committees. The changes will not affect districts in Eureka Ward. If you would like to see the recommended northern boundary changes a map can be viewed on the WDC website.

I have previously mentioned that we are required to review the **Waikato District Plan** every 10 years. The final part of the review was to consult with a group of people in the community about different aspects of the District Plan and how it might affect them, including landowners who have a historic building, notable tree or landscape or natural character area on their property.

Today, 27th June, we adopted the Proposed District Plan at a full Extraordinary Council meeting; the Proposed Plan will now be notified on 18 July, when the submission period opens, and submissions will close on 9 October. For more information you can email districtplan@waide.govt.nz If your property will be affected by key changes in the Proposed Plan you will receive a letter that either details the proposed changes or prompts you to see if you would like to make a submission. We will be holding drop in sessions in August and September to help you make a submission. After 18 July you can see information on the Provisional Plan and supporting documents on www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/districtplan

This week we also adopted the Long Term Plan. The LTP establishes the Council's infrastructure and financial strategies for the next 10 years and enables us to *adopt a new vision for liveable, thriving and connected communities.*

Waikato District has again been nominated for two awards in this year's **Local Government Excellence Awards** - for our plan to cater for growth in the north of the District and also the iconic Perry Bridge as part of the Te Awa River ride Ngaruawahia to Horotiu section that I mentioned in my newsletter last month. The awards attracted 75 applications and 22 finalists, and the winners will be announced at the Local Govt NZ conference in mid-July.

Don't forget to renew your dog registration by 20 July and dog owners can register their dog/s on line. A by-law now requires all dogs over three months to be microchipped, so, to apply for a dog licence, dogs need to be microchipped and the number included on your application form.

This month's launch of the **Little Libraries** was postponed and will now be held at Springhill Prison on 4th July. I will print some photographs in my next newsletter.

Woodlands are holding a StitchesTime exhibition in the homestead during July 10am – 3pm Monday to Friday – entry fee \$2. There will be special displays of christening gowns, wooden children's toys and needlework. You can also visit *Profs*, the onsite café, for a \$10 Devonshire tea – booking required – contact chat@profs.co.nz or phone 07 824 3985 to book.

Waikato District continues to attract **new business**. I noticed in the press recently that a NZ owned whisky distillery is to be built in Pokeno with production likely to begin in 2019. The family owned business chose Pokeno because of the high-quality water available in the area and will specialise in NZ single malt whisky to sell to markets around the world.

If you are a keen cyclist and would like to ride indoors during winter, **Avantidrome** are now opening earlier at weekends allowing cyclists to get a track or gym session in. Their opening hours are now Monday – Friday 6am – 9pm, Saturday 7:30am – 6:30pm and Sunday 7:30 – 6:30pm. If you want to use the Gallagher Bike Skills Park during the **school holidays** the concreted skills course is still open, and they are also holding school holiday programmes.

To make enquiries about using the velodrome facilities phone 0800 VELODROME or 07 823 1421 or email reception@avantidrome.nz Several events are happening throughout July – the NI School Track championships 8-9 July and Round 2 of the National Track Series 13-15 July and both events are free for spectators.



Contact me anytime - Rob McGuire:
Councillor Eureka Ward
Ph. 824 3696 / fax 824 3645 / Mob 0274 970 966 /
WDC Council free phone - 0800 492 452.
Emailrob.mcguire@waide.govt.nz or robmcguire@xtra.co.nz

